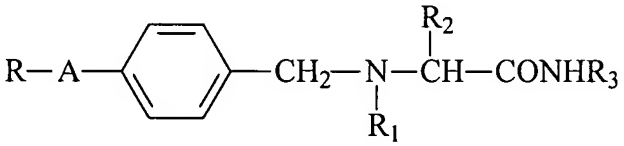
I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of~~ A method of treating head pain conditions, comprising administering to a mammal a therapeutically effective amount of an α-aminoamide of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

A is a $-(CH_2)_m-$ or $-(CH_2)_n-X-$, wherein m is 1 or 2; n is zero, 1 or 2; and X is -O-, -S- or -NH-;

R is a furyl, thienyl, or pyridyl ring or a phenyl ring, unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_3 alkoxy and trifluoromethyl;

R_1 is hydrogen or C_1-C_3 alkyl;

R_2 is hydrogen or C_1-C_2 alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy or phenyl; phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents independently selected from C_1-C_3 alkyl, halogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_2 alkoxy or trifluoromethyl;

R_3 is hydrogen or C_1-C_3 alkyl;

or an optically active isomer, racemic mixture, or pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof

~~if the case, either as a single isomer, or as a mixture thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof; in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of head pain conditions~~.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of an α-aminoamide~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein in formula (I):

A is a group selected from $-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-O-$, $-CH_2-S-$, $-CH_2-CH_2-O-$;

R is a phenyl ring, unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents independently selected from halogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl or a methoxy group; or a thienyl ring;

R_1 is hydrogen or C_1-C_2 alkyl;

R_2 is hydrogen or methyl, unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, or phenyl unsubstituted or substituted by C_1-C_2 alkyl, halogen, hydroxy, methoxy or trifluoromethyl; and

R_3 is hydrogen or C_1-C_2 alkyl.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of an α-aminoamide~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein in formula (I):

A is $-CH_2-O-$, $-CH_2-S-$ or $-CH_2-CH_2-$;

R is a phenyl ring, unsubstituted or substituted by one or two halogen atoms;

R_1 is hydrogen;

R_2 is hydrogen or methyl, unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy or phenyl ring, unsubstituted or substituted by a halogen atom; and

R_3 is hydrogen or methyl.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of an α-aminoamide~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein the α-aminoamide is selected from the group consisting of:

2-(4-benzyloxybenzylamino)propanamide;

2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]propanamide;

2-[4-(2-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]propanamide;

2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]propanamide;

2-[4-(3-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]propanamide;

2-[4-(4-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]propanamide;

2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-N-methyl-propanamide;

2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-N-methyl-propanamide;

2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-propanamide;

2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-propanamide;

2-(4-benzyloxybenzylamino)-3-hydroxy-N-methylpropanamide;

2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-N-methylpropanamide;

2-[4-(2-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-N-methylpropanamide;

2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-N-methylpropanamide;

2-[4-(3-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-3-hydroxy-N-methylpropanamide;

2-[4-(2-thienylmethylenoxy)benzylamino]-propanamide;

2-[4-(2-(3-fluorophenyl)ethyl)benzylamino)-propanamide;

2-[4-benzylthiobenzylamino)-propanamide;

2-[4-benzyloxybenzylamino]-3-phenyl-N-methylpropanamide;

2-[4-benzyloxybenzylamino]-N-methylbutanamide;

2-[4-benzyloxybenzylamino]-2-phenyl-acetamide;

2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-phenyl-acetamide;

2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-phenyl-acetamide;

2-[4-(3-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-phenyl-acetamide;

2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-(2-fluorophenyl)acetamide;

2-[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-(3-fluorophenyl)acetamide; and

2-[4-(3-chlorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-2-(3-fluorophenyl)acetamide;

or an optically active isomer, racemic mixture, or pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof

~~if the case, either as a single isomer or as a mixture thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof~~.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of an α-aminoamide~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein the α-aminoamide is selected from the group consisting of: (S)-(+)-2[4-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-propanamide, (S)-(+)-2-[4-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)benzylamino]-propanamide and (S)-(+)-2-[4-(3-chlorobenzyloxy) benzylamino]-propanamide.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein the head pain conditions are involving a cerebral vasodilatation mechanism.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein head pain conditions are both primary and secondary headache disorders.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method according to claim 7, wherein the primary headache disorders derive from the intense pain of acute migraine or cluster headaches or from vascular mechanisms; and the secondary headache disorders derive from infection, metabolic disorders, or other systemic illnesses.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein head pain conditions include migraine, headache, neuralgia, hemicrania, facial pain and arachnoiditis.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method according to claim 9, claims, wherein said migraine is acute, transformed or vascular migraine; said headache is acute, cluster, evolutive or tension type headache; said neuralgia is trigeminal neuralgia; and said hemicrania is chronic paroxysmal hemicrania.

Claim 11. (Canceled)

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for the treatment of head pain conditions in a mammal in need thereof comprising administering to the mammal a~~ of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically effective ~~dose of at least one α-aminoamide of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 which ranges~~ amount is from about 0.05 to 20 mg/kg body weight per day.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for the treatment of head pain conditions in a mammal in need thereof comprising administering to the mammal a~~ of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically effective ~~dose of at least one α-aminoamide of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 which ranges~~ amount is from about 0.5 to 10 mg/kg day.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for the treatment of head pain conditions in a mammal in need thereof comprising administering to the mammal a~~ of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically effective ~~dose of at least one α-aminoamide of formula (1) as defined in claim 1 which ranges~~ amount is from about 0.5 to 5 mg/kg day.

Claim 15. (Canceled).